



NET FREQUENCY
14.236 23:30Z

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FALL 1990

A non-profit organization for the enhancement of amateur radio and worldwide peace and friendship

The Spratly Affair

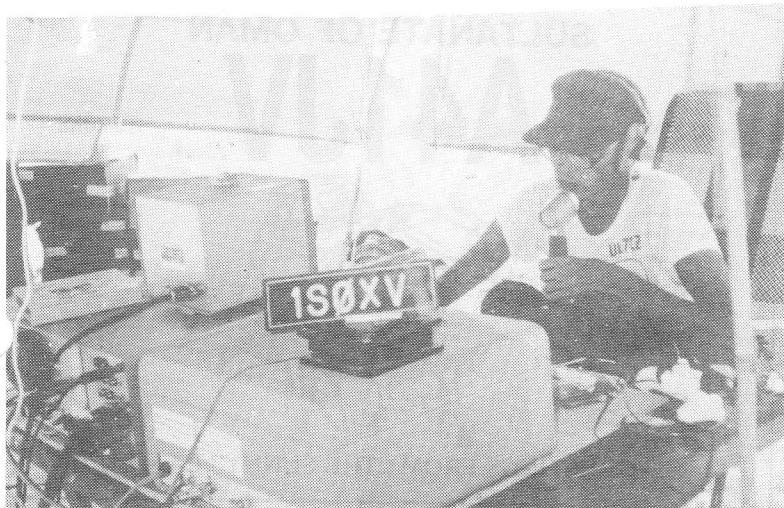
What's it like to sweat out the ultimate DXpedition? Meet **Romeo Stepanenko, 3W3RR/UB5JRR**. After finishing college, Romeo had several jobs before he had a chance to ship out to Vietnam with the Kuilong Company. No sooner than he'd settled in, he was asked by the Minister of Telecommunications to create an amateur radio society. This wasn't just a fun club. The society handled radio courses, built a club station, established rules and regulations, and most importantly, set out to get Vietnamese hams on the air.

The Kuilong Company covered the bills, seeing the obvious goodwill of such a gesture. Even with all of this work, the thought of making it to Spratly Island was always in his mind. The work with the Ministry and with amateur radio in General helped Romeo make contact with the people who could make a trip possible.



(Above) Beautiful downtown Spratly.

(Below) Alex, UL7PCZ, operating 1S0XV, one of the two complete stations supplied by INDEXA.



What they needed most was transportation and supplies. When the JAs came in and operated as XV2A and 3W5JA, they left items behind for the proposed "Spratly Affair".

After working his contacts in Saigon, Romeo realized that he must go directly to Hanoi for permission. He bombarded the authorities there with telex's. Let Romeo tell the rest of the story:

"We needed a boat and helicopters for the trip and some sort of protection. We ran into problems with local officials who feared the trip was too risky. We later traded the helicopters for small boats to be used as landing craft due to the very, very high cost of the choppers.

"Due to hardships, some of the proposed operators couldn't go and this also cut back on our equipment needs. After nearly having a heart attack fearing no rigs and no funds, we finally found enough rigs and funds from INDEXA. **Alex, UL7PCZ**, hand-carried in the final equipment just two weeks before our departure.

"At first on Spratly, we had a good SSB path to the East Coast of the USA, but then it fell apart. Only occasionally did we hear signals after that. Even on CW we had poor signals into certain parts of the world.

"To go with the problems on the bands, we started having problems with the generators, and we were worried about money problems once back in Vietnam... problems later solved by the Kuilong Company, NCDXF and INDEXA.

"Still, we made 43,265 contacts despite the problems. Next time, we hope the trip goes better."

INDEXA NEWSLETTER FALL 1990

Malpelo Island in November

LIGA COLUMBIANA DE RADIOAFICIONADOS President **Arturo, HK3BED**, confirms they will travel to Malpelo Island the first week in November 1990. **INDEXA** has joined many other groups in planning this venture. They will operate five stations for at least ten days. They even plan to climb the mountain to set up a station with a path to the west. **W6OSP** of **NCDXF** tells us that Malpelo is #6 on the wanted list with West Coast US hams. It drops to #18 on the East Coast. Are you surprised that **NCDXF** is involved?

The proposed QSL route is via **HK3DDD**, Beto Rojas. And here's some good thinking. They propose to print the cards before the DXpedition to save time, and will answer all cards, including those via the bureau.

VP2MO AWARDED BRITISH EMPIRE MEDAL HONORED FOR RADIO WORK DURING HUGO

(The following article appeared in the Reporter newspaper in Monserrat featuring our own Bobbie, **Errol Martin, VP2MO**.)

Errol Martin, a Public Works Electrical Inspector, was awared the British Empire Medal on June 15th for his ham radio contributions after Hurricane Hugo.

Until the arrival of the HMS Alacrity, Martin was the island's only means of communication with the outside world because the other operators were either off the island or had their aerials destroyed during Hugo. Also, all of the masts and arrays of the Cable and Wireless, the major radio stations and the police department were blown away.

After getting his aerial back up, and part of the time from his car, he operated his radio continually for days and nights. Initially, he conveyed the disaster's details and there-after he served as an invaluable, if unofficial, means of passing family news to Montserradians off the island, as well as to radio station on foreign and neighboring islands.

Well done, Bobbie!

ATTENTION ALL MEMBERS

INDEXA is looking for a few good members who are willing to faithfully use a few of our membership "stuffers" as you mail out your cards to DXers. Send ur name, call to our address for a few. If you so desire, an SASE for 3oz will help.

The Ultimate QRM Buster

Here's a tip from **Phillip, VS6CT**, on how to avoid QRM and chaos on top of rare DX.

"I shall never forget the evening of the 22nd of April. In Hong Kong, we have **STØ** at 14.145 listening up, **Spratly** around 14.155 and **Jarvis** around 14.185. I've never heard such incredible conditions before. Fortunately, with so much rare DX on at one time, it split the DX hounds three ways, confused the el-sikos, and generally cut down on the choas that ensues with one station on at a time."

Who wouldn't be delighted with that kind of action! **Phillip** is currently back in Jolly Old G-land, surely tightening the brows of his ham friends with such stories.

Oman/A41JV

Salim, A41JV, has a new beam up and is keeping **KJ4GK** busy mailing out those QSLs. He'd planned a couple of visits to nearby countries for DXpeditions until **YI-land** made its recent move. A reminder: you need a keyer to work **Salim**.

**SUPPORT INDEXA!
IT WORKS FOR YOU!**

SULTANATE OF OMAN

A41JV

CQ ZONE 21

ITU ZONE 39

International DX Association

International DX Association

GREETINGS FROM "THE SUNNY" LAND

South Sudan/STØ

Here's a look at the crew that brought you the South Sudan last Spring. As you can tell by the photo, **Franz Langner, DJ9ZB**, always dresses well on these DXpeditions - complete with his **INDEXA** t-shirt, of course! **PA3CXC**, **PA3CWN** and **IK1HJM** will just have to take some lessons.

They topped 23,500 contacts from Kapoeta Village. From what we can see from the chicken-wire and bars on the window, the thatch roof and the wall of poles around the compound, they lack a hotel. Hi! Thanks, guys, for a job well done!

NEW LIFE MEMBERS: KE7CX, KE6CF, HB9ARE, W4ZPQ, LX1OM, LX1TO, XE2XOX, DJ5DA, W6TWN, KI6WF, DK3CF, JH7HJL, NL7HT, I5OLR, KG5ND, WA4BCQ, HB9DDM, JE1DXC.

EXTRA ASSISTANCE FROM: LX1OM, LX1TO, UA2ABA, OZ1HLZ, JA8IYI, W9ESD, EA5DKF, NW3H, NA5W, KC4XA, X8DNE, WA2IUV, W5CCP, AH6JF, W9ZNY, KD0JL, KA5TUF, WA2CBU, WB9AHM, K4FCW, JM3DDG, W6JED, WA3OFR, JA3BKP, N5ITG, N6DUR, JE1DXC, KG5WO.

SPONSORED MEMBERSHIP: WA6HIB for UL7PAE.

NOTES FROM W4WMQ

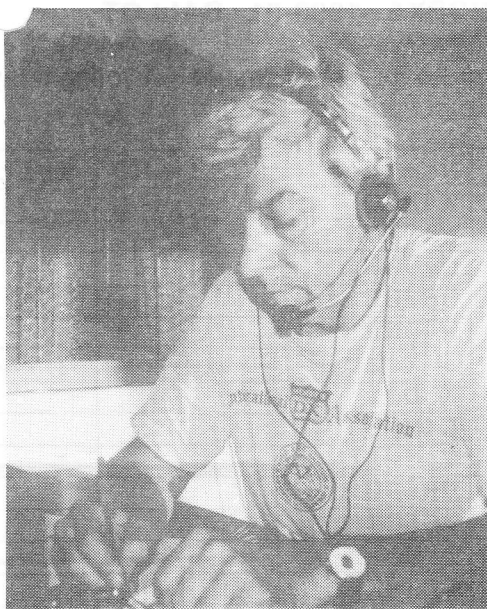
I wish to thank everyone for the nice cards and well-wishes during my period of illness.

We wish a speedy recovery to our fine net controllers who are not in the best of health. Get well Carl, WA4BCQ, Al, NS6B, and Tex, N6AHV.

Thailand/HSØ

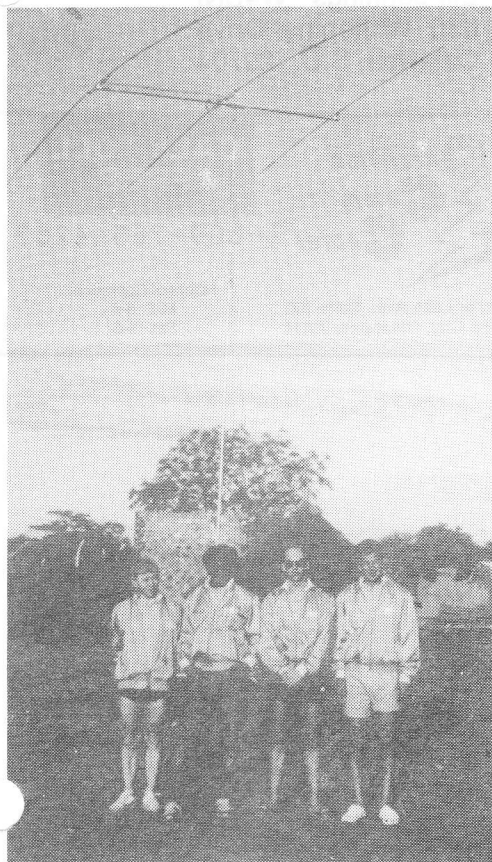
The Radio Amateur Society of Thailand continues to upgrade operations from HSØ. After operating from HSØB for some time, they are now using HSØAC. The new station is well equiped and the location is easier to reach. **John, W2ZWW**, operates from HSØAC and mails his logs to **Carl, WA4BCQ** for a good turnaround on QSLs.

Just be aware that some of the operators at HSØAC don't have QSLs. If you need a card, ask the operator before assuming you'll get one!



(ABOVE) FRANZ, DJ9ZB IN HIS INDEXA BEST!

(L-R, BELOW) THE PA3CXC/STØ CREW: DJ9ZB, PA3CXC, PA3CWM, IK1HJM



Official club station of the Radio
Amateur Society of Thailand (RAST)
CQ ZONE 26 ITU ZONE 49

HSØB

Confirming **W2ZWW** QSO with:

CALLSIGN	REPORT	MODE
		SSB
DATE	BAND (MHz)	CW



Thank you for the contact. Best 73s

Operator: John, W2ZWW
Operators are authorized members of RAST
Antenna: TH6DXX, dipoles for 40 and 80 metres
Transceiver: Kenwood TS930
A W4MPY QSL

INDEXA
DX INFO NET
14,236 - 2330Z

QSL MGR:
Carl, WA4BCQ

INDEXA NEWSLETTER FALL 1990

INTERNATIONAL DX ASSOCIATION, INC.

MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION

I agree with the Amateur Code of Ethics and I am willing to help others as I help myself.

New _____ Renewal _____ Member Number _____

Name _____ Call _____

Street _____ City _____

State _____ Zip Code _____ Country _____

Membership 1 year (\$12 US or 35 IRCs) _____

LIFE membership (\$100 US or 290 IRCs) _____

OM/XYL Membership (both licensed) (\$125 US/363 IRCs) _____

LIFE member payments (4 X \$25 US in one year) _____

T-shirt with LOGO S - M - L - EL (\$10 US, \$12 DX) _____

Lapel pin with LOGO (\$5 US) _____

Rubber stamp with LOGO (\$5 US) _____

DONATION _____

TOTAL _____

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INDEXA 1990-91 BALLOT

Please vote yes or no for each nominee. If voting no, you may use the write-in space for another candidate.

Office	Nominee	YES	NO	Write in
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1st VP	WA9AVN			
2nd VP	DJ9ZB			
3rd VP	OH2BH			
Sec/Trea	W4UNP			
DIRECTOR	3 Year			
	W3DJZ			
	K4MQG			
	1 Year			
	VK6RU			
	VS6CT			
V-DIRECTOR	1 Year			
	CE3GN			
	TU1BQ			
	DL9SC			
	TR8SA			
	VE7JX			

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